

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10/646,643	08/22/2003	George William Dailly	2003P07970US

Response To Official Action

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Ayres, Timothy Michael	
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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In the Claims, please make the following amendments:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An adjustable device for supporting a patient comprising:

an elongated planar member having a top side and a bottom side and defining a longitudinal plane having a first end and a second end;

a support assembly including a base having a first section and a second section with a pedestal disposed thereon, the base defining a base plane; and

a plurality of elongated connecting arms having first and second ends, each first end of the plurality of elongated connecting arms being pivotably attached to the bottom side of the planar member approximately midway between the first and second ends of the longitudinal plane and each second end of the plurality of elongated connecting arms being pivotably attached to the pedestal for moving the planar member from a first position wherein each connecting arm forms an acute angle relative to the first section of the base plane to a second position wherein each connecting arm forms an obtuse angle relative to the first section of the base plane and each connecting arm travels through an axis that is orthogonal to the base when the planar member moves from the first position to the second position.

Claim 2 (original): The device of claim 1, further comprising a means for moving the planar member from the first position to the second position.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the planar member in the first position and the planar member in the second position are substantially parallel to each other and to the base plane.

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Claims 4-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of elongated connecting arms is arranged as a four bar linkage.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method for diagnostic imaging of a patient comprising the steps of:

providing a support device having a planar member capable of moving from a first position defining a first plane to a second position defining a second plane, the support device further including a plurality of elongated connecting arms and a base having a first section and a second section, one end of each arm being pivotably attached to a bottom side of the planar member approximately midway between a first end and a second end of the planar member and an opposing end of each arm being pivotably connected to the base, wherein each connecting arm forms an acute angle relative to the first section of the base in the first position and each connecting arm forms an obtuse angle relative to the first section of the base in the second position and each connecting arm travels through an axis that is orthogonal to the planar member when the planar member moves from the first position to the second position;

positioning the patient on the planar member of the support device;

moving the planar member into the first plane;

performing a first diagnostic procedure on the patient;

moving the planar member into the second plane; and

performing a second diagnostic procedure on the patient.

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Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the first plane and the second plane are substantially parallel to each other.

Claims 11-14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the first plane and the second plane are substantially parallel to each other and to the base plane.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the plurality of elongated connecting arms is arranged as a four bar linkage.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of moving a patient from a first plane to a second plane comprising the steps of:

providing a support device having a planar member capable of moving from a first position defining a first plane to a second position defining a second plane, the support device further including a plurality of elongated connecting arms, and a base having a first section and a second section, one end of each arm being pivotably attached to a bottom side of the planar member approximately midway between a first end and second end of the planar member and an opposing end of each arm being pivotably connected to the base, wherein each connecting arm forms an acute angle relative to the first section of the base in the first position and each connecting arm forms an obtuse angle relative to the first section of the base in the

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second position and each connecting arm travels through an axis that is orthogonal to the planar member when the planar member moves from the first position to the second position;

positioning the patient on the support device;

moving the planar member to the first plane; and

moving the planar member to the second plane.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 17, wherein the first plane and the second plane are substantially parallel to each other.

Claims 19-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 18, including a remote control operably coupled to the motor assembly.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 20, wherein the first plane and the second plane are substantially parallel to each other and to the base plane.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of elongated connecting arms is arranged as a four bar linkage.

Claims 24-30 (canceled).